

Amendment/Response

Reply to Final Office Action of March 9, 2007

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) A reticle SMIF pod, comprising:

a dome having a plurality of spring-loaded latchkeys;

a cassette having a plurality of primary engagement locations thereon wherein said

~~latchkeys are intended to engage in said primary engagement locations to seal a base of said cassette to said dome; and~~

a plurality of secondary engagement locations positioned in said cassette ~~above~~
corresponding to and disposed between said plurality of primary engagement locations and said
base of said cassette, such that when a single one of said plurality of latchkeys fails to engage in
a corresponding one of said primary engagement locations, said single one of said plurality of
latchkeys engages in a corresponding one of said secondary engagement locations to prevent said
cassette from completely disengaging from said dome ~~falling should said plurality of latchkeys~~
~~fail to engage in said primary engagement locations.~~

2. (original) A reticle SMIF pod according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of secondary engagement locations corresponds in equal number to said plurality of primary engagement locations.

3. (original) A reticle SMIF pod according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of secondary engagement locations are of a lesser number than said plurality of primary engagement locations.

4. (currently amended) A reticle SMIF pod, comprising:

a dome;

a cassette;

said dome having a plurality of dome engagement means for engaging said dome with said cassette;

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said cassette having a plurality of primary engagement means thereon wherein said dome engagement means ~~are intended to engage with said primary engagement means to seal a base of~~ said cassette to said dome; and

a plurality of secondary engagement means positioned in said cassette corresponding to and disposed between ~~above~~ said plurality of primary engagement means and said base of said cassette, such that when a single one of said plurality of dome engagement means fails to engage in a corresponding one of said primary engagement means, said single one of said plurality of dome engagement means engages in a corresponding one of said secondary engagement means to prevent said cassette from completely disengaging from said dome ~~falling-should said plurality of dome engagement means fail to engage with said primary engagement means.~~

5. (original) A reticle SMIF pod according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of secondary engagement means corresponds in equal number to said plurality of primary engagement means.

6. (original) A reticle SMIF pod according to claim 4, wherein said plurality of secondary engagement means are of a lesser number than said plurality of primary engagement means.

7. (currently amended) In a reticle SMIF pod which includes a dome with a plurality of spring-loaded latchkeys for engaging said dome with a cassette, wherein said cassette includes a plurality of primary latchkey receivers which are intended to engage with said plurality of latchkeys, a method for creating a backup fastening between said dome and said cassette should said plurality of latchkeys not properly engage with said primary latchkey receivers, comprising the step of providing a plurality of secondary latchkey receivers positioned in said cassette corresponding to and disposed between ~~above~~ said plurality of primary latchkey receivers and a base of said cassette, such that when a single one of said plurality of latchkeys fails to engage in a corresponding one of said primary latchkey receivers, said single one of said plurality of latchkeys engages in a corresponding one of said secondary latchkey receivers to prevent said cassette from completely disengaging from said dome ~~should said plurality of latchkeys fail to engage with said primary latchkey receivers.~~

8. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said plurality of secondary latchkey receivers corresponds in equal number to said plurality of primary latchkey receivers.

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9. (original) A method according to claim 7, wherein said plurality of secondary latchkey receivers are of a lesser number than said plurality of primary latchkey receivers.